



**St. James United Church**



Belong • Grow • Serve

330 Elizabeth Ave,  
St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9

**Celebration of Worship for October 19, 2025**

# *Social* **ACTION SUNDAY**



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, city and all of society. We affirm each person's uniqueness and believe that all persons deserve to be valued, treated with equity, and respected. We are all children of God, walking many paths of spirituality.

Further, we proudly and publicly declare our commitment to practice radical hospitality and strive in every way to provide a safe and supportive place for all persons to participate in the worship and work of our church.

Guided by the teachings of Jesus, we embrace all persons, regardless of creed, race, age, ability, economic status, cultural and ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or any other difference that has led to marginalization or oppression.

In fond and loving memory of a wonderful husband,  
father and grandfather

***T Alex Hickman***

October 19, 1925 - January 10, 2016

## **October 19, 2025, Social Action Sunday**

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft,  
Clyde Flight, Bob Rose, Amy Dalziel and the St. James Quartet  
Ushers: Guy and Julie Hollett, Marilyn Adams,  
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

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*Please rise in body or in spirit where there is an \*.  
Print in **bold** indicates that the portion is read or sung by everyone.*

### **We Come to Worship**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE**

*We gather in love, greeting each other in Inuktitut, French and Bangla.*

#### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SHARING OF PEACE**

**INTROIT:** “Kyrie Eleison” – (*More Voices 68*)

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Ps 145 as refashioned by James Taylor in *Litany of Praise from Everyday Psalms*, 1994, 2010)

Governments come and go, nations too. Only God is forever.

**God alone is truly dependable, never corrupted by power.**

God strengthens those crushed by life, those bent over by cares.

**God is near to all who call, never turns anyone away.**

God does not favor the fortunate; the seasons turn for everyone.

**With generosity, God causes the earth to bear food for all.** Only humans hoard, creating shortages for others.

**But God holds nothing back; God plays fair with everyone.**

And so, we give praise to God, to the one who is always near.  
**We praise the one who hears the cry of all who are in need.**

**OPENING PRAYER** (adapted, WFD prayer on [presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org))

Ever-generous God, you gather people from across the earth,  
**calling us to care for each other with hope and daily bread. You ask us to see the earth as you do, so very good as trees fruit and green plants give themselves as food, a holy place for everything to whom you have given life. May this vision guide us in how we fashion our world, one where everything is shared. We pay in the name of Jesus, our living Lord. Amen.**

**\*HYMN:** “For the Fruit of All Creation” (*Voices United 227*)

### **We Share in Love**

**OUR LIFE AND WORK:** *We share what is going on in our community.*

**OFFERING:** *There are many ways to financially support St. James.*



*You can place your contribution in the plate, scan the QR code on the left, donate via PAR, website ([www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org)), or mail to the church office. In whatever way you support St. James, the community is grateful. Tax receipts available upon request.*

**\* HYMN:** “In Gratitude & Humble Trust” (*VU 544*)

**In gratitude and humble trust, we bring our best today to serve your cause and share your love with all along life’s way. O God, you give yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son, teach us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.**

**\* PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

### **We Listen and Respond**

**LEARNING TOGETHER**

*We explore themes of the day in a manner that is accessible to all ages.*

\* **HYMN:** “Like a Rock” (*More Voices* 92)

## **PRAYER FOR HEALING AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*  
Jeremiah 31:27-34; and Luke 18:1-8

\* **HYMN:** “We Are Pilgrims on a Journey” (*Voices United* 595)

**READING:** *At the end of the reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*  
Adaptation of Brian McLaren and Gareth Higgins, “Domination  
Stories,” *Learning How to See* podcast, s 5, ep 2 (Albuquerque, NM)

## **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

**A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT:** *We pause for a time of quiet reflection.*

**ANTHEM:** “We Shall Overcome” (*from “Then Let Us Sing”*)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PRAYER OF JESUS** (*VU* p. 921)

### **We Leave to Serve**

\* **HYMN:** “Live into Hope” (*Voices United* 699)

## \* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

As we go forth from here may we be:

**strong in spirit, courageous in will, and gentle of heart.**

Each day may our actions be:

**rooted in wisdom, nurtured by hope and open to love.**

May we meet others as we would wish to be met:

**with a heart of compassion, in a spirit of healing,  
and grounded in joy.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Please remain seated during the postlude.*

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## St. James United Church

Chair of the Church Board:	Pamela Norman
Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Co-Directors of Music:	Amy Dalziel and Bob Rose
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 1-709-722-1881, x200; Email: [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org);  
Emergency Cellphone: 1-709-351-0983; Website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)

 @StJamesUCNL       @stjamesuc

WiFi: StJamesGuest    WiFi Password: StJamesUC

All worship services at St. James are Live Streamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service, you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please speak to an usher who can seat you in an area not visible on camera. You may also speak to Rev. James after the service if you have concerns. All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced/ broadcast under ONE LICENSE. License #: #A-700000.

## Life and Work – October 19, 2025

**We offer our sincere condolences to** the Hunt family on the passing of Bertha hunt, who passed away on October 7, 2025. The Funeral Service was held at Carnell Memorial Chapel on Thursday, October 16th, 2025 at 11:00AM. Interment followed at the General Protestant Cemetery, Waterford Bridge Road, St. John's, NL.

**Soup Luncheon:** A reminder that today is our Soup Luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there!

**After Worship Bible Study:** Beginning today, Sunday, October 19, Rev. James will lead a Bible study each Sunday after the coffee time. This will be a chance to explore the lectionary readings in more detail. Gather in the library 30 minutes after worship for an hour-long study.

**Rev. James' Study Time:** Over the next month, Rev. James will be taking an extra day or two each week to work on a major paper. This is a comprehensive paper he is writing as part of his doctoral program. He will be around to prepare and lead the service, as well as for pastoral emergencies. He will also keep his Thursday office hours from 1PM to 3:30PM.

### AOTS Fish Dinner:



\* Tickets are available from any member of the AOTS Men's Club or Aubrey Hill  
- 709-726-8306 \*

**REMINDER! Trunk or Treat, October 26:** We are hosting our Trunk or Treat again this year and are asking for your help. It would be greatly appreciated if you could donate some treats towards this event. If you cannot get out to shop, monetary donations are also welcome and we will buy what we need.

Volunteers are also needed to give out treats on the day of the event and also cars to be decorated to participate in the Trunk Or Treat. If you don't have a car but would still like to participate, we can buddy you up with another volunteer. Please let the office know if you would need to be partnered with a buddy so we can have it prearranged. Thank you!

***P.S. Face painting will be available at the event!!***



## Trunk Or Treat

We're back and ready for another day of fun!

Sunday, October 26, 2025

2:30 — 4:00 pm  
(or until shelled out, whichever comes first)

St. James United Church  
330 Elizabeth Avenue

No costume required

Hope to see you all there!!!

**Harvest Afternoon Tea & Bake Sale:** Saturday, November 8th 2-4 pm  
Tickets \$10 and available at the church office 709-722-1881 and at the door.

St. James United Church  
330 Elizabeth Avenue

## Harvest Tea & Bake Stall



St. James Auditorium

Saturday, Nov 8, 2025



Time: 2 – 4 pm Cost: \$10.00